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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2852  
Examiner: Robert B. Beatty

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Applicant(s): Hiroyuki INOUE et al.

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Appl. No.: 10/827,372

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Filed: April 20, 2004

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For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

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Atty. ref.: MAE 312

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March 14, 2006

INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT  
AND FEE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted in compliance with the timing requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(2), i.e., after the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a final Action or Notice of Allowance, along with the required fee of \$180, under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

Attached is a copy of a Japanese patent publication, which was cited by the Japanese Patent Office on September 20, 2005, in connection with a counterpart application. Any relevance of the publication may be gleaned from the attached English-language abstract. The publication is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Consideration of the listed document is respectfully requested.

Should the remittance be accidentally missing or insufficient, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

03/15/2006 HAL111 00000110 10827372

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Respectfully submitted,

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CUSTOMER NO. 23995

March 14, 2006

Date

RHB/vm



## FORM PTO-1449

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

 Atty. reference:  
 MAE 312

 Application No.:  
 10/827,372

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Hiroyuki INOUE et al.

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation
	AI	2002-040822	02/06/2002	JAPAN			Abstract
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

AO

Examiner:

Date considered:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.